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# Press Release

## ***HIALEAH MAYOR RECEIVES RECOGNITION FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD***

Hialeah, Florida May 8, 2008 – Mayor Julio Robaina was honored by the Miami Dade County Coalition for Community Education for his exemplary dedication to the concept of community education. Mayor Robaina diligently encourages municipal support, provides crucial resources and is constantly striving to build bridges between Miami Dade County Public Schools and our diverse community.

The prestigious Marge Pearlson award was bestowed to the Mayor during the 2008 School House Award Ceremony at the FIU Grand Theater. Approved in 1990 as a direct support organization of the public school system, the Miami-Dade Coalition for Community Education involves the collaboration between school and community to address the educational, health, social and economic needs of our neighborhoods, and to promote programs that meet those needs. They recognize that as demographics, resources and technology change, so must the scope of services provided by the school. "It is always humbling to receive recognition from any endeavor, and none is more important than the well-being and assurance of our children's future," expressed Mayor Robaina.

Among many, many applications accepted for the consideration of the award, Mayor Robaina's stood out for a variety of educational and community endeavors he has implemented and constantly strives to expand. Among these, were Mayor Robaina's dedication to meet the educational and communal needs of all constituents as well as his involvement and active participation with the Parent Teacher Student Association within the City. In addition, the Mayor's efforts were fundamental in the renovation, restoration and creation of new and existing recreational facilities which are all a crucial part of the educational foundation for any child. The staff at the Mayor's Office was the only one among the nominees considered to have an Educational Excellence School Advisory Committee Liaison which closely works with school staff members, students, administrative committee members and business leaders to improve schools.

In addition, the Marge Pearlson Award is given to distinct members of the community who tirelessly give to the community and are outstanding advocates who continue to dedicate their lives to promoting the virtues and benefits of community education.

Mayor Julio Robaina was chosen as recipient to the award from tough competition by a five member committee. The Coalition's goal is to choose members of the community who help make schools the center of the community where everyone, regardless of age, race, gender or economic status can have access to programs and courses which can improve their conditions and open doors in the work force.